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Mei Jih I-Pao ("News Digest"): 29 JUNE 1938 PM

BRITISH AMBASSADOR LEAVING FOR HANKOW

At the request of the Chinese Government, Sir Archibald Clark Kerr, British Ambassador to China, left Shanghai yesterday morning for Kongkong on board the s.s. Empress of Russia en route to Hankow. Sir Archibald is accompanied by about ten foreign experts whom he had collected in Shanghai for the purpose of helping China in her war-time finance and expanding the scope of Great Britain's assistance to China.

The British Ambassador is in deep sympathy with China's war of resistance and is highly disgusted with Japan's acts of aggression and her violation of British interests.

In view of Japan's aggressive policy, Great Britain has found it impossible to reach a compromise with her; she has therefore decided to give China positive financial assistance.

Editor
Seen by Mr Robertson
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June 27, 1938.

MAINICHI :-

FRANCE DEFINITELY SUPPORTS CHINA

The Chiang Kai-shek regime has authority over five provinces only, namely Yunnan, Kweichow, Szechuen, Kwangtung and Kwangsi. The activities of the Ambassadors and Ministers of Third Powers in China are worthy of attention among which the French Ambassador's draw special attention. Recently the French Ambassador paid a visit to Hanoi where he met the Governor-General of Indo-China and decided to support China in the following ways:-

(1) By constructing the Nanning-Chinnangkwan Railway.

(2) By extending the Yunnan-Hanoi Railway to Szechuen.

(3) To give financial assistance in building motor roads between Yunnan and Kwangtung as well as between Yunnan and Burma.

(4) By forming an economic bloc with Yunnan, Kweichow, Szechuen, Kwangsi and Indo-China.

(5) By establishing a Heavy industrial district at Tongking.

(6) By supplying military advisors to China.

BRITISH AMBASSADOR TO VISIT HANKOW

As a result of the continuous defeat of the Chinese Army and diminished financial support of the Hankow Government, the Powers are about to change their diplomatic policy.

Acting on instructions from London, Sir Archibald Clark Kerr, British Ambassador, will proceed to Hankow via Hongkong on June 28 on a secret mission. According to reliable information, he will attempt to put an end to the Sino-Japanese hostilities. It is now known what conditions will be proposed to Chiang Kai-shek by the Ambassador.

With the understanding of America, Britain will decide her attitude after she has obtained Japan's views. For this reason, the Ambassador will probably propose the retirement of Chiang Kai-shek and the introduction of a new currency in Central China in co-operation with Japan. Upon learning of the above news, the Soviet Ambassador to China left for Moscow on June 23 to draw up a suitable policy to be adopted towards the new situation.

As regards the return of the German Ambassador the following explanation was given: "Due to the fact that the German Ambassador has not attempted to do anything and has allowed Britain to take advantage of the situation in China even though it is clear that the fall of the Hankow Government is approaching, he will be replaced by a new Ambassador."